

MAHAJANS

GREAT SOULS IN KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

THE PASSING AWAY OF BHISMA

AS RECOUNTED IN THE MOST PERFECT RIPENED FRUIT OF
ALL VEDIC LITERATURE -- SRIMAD BHAGWATAM...

5000 YEARS AGO, AT THE CLOSE OF THE
BLOODY BATTLE OF KURUKSHETRA,
BHISMADEV, ONE OF THE GREATEST
AUTHORITIES ON KRISHNA CONSCIOUS-
NESS, LAY DYING FROM HIS WOUNDS...

FOR A DEATHBED
BHISMA HAS ONLY
THE ARROWS THAT
HAVE PIERCED HIS
BODY!

BUT ALL
DO BOW
BEFORE
HIM!

JUST SEE HOW GREAT IS
BHISMA! ONLY TO CATCH A
GLIMPSE OF HIM, YOGIS AND
SAINTS FROM MANY PLANETS
HAVE GATHERED HERE!

EVEN THE SUPREME LORD--
KRISHNA HIMSELF-- HAS COME
TO PAY RESPECTS!
ALTHOUGH HE IS GOD, HE APPEARS
NOW AMONG US
AS OUR FAMILY MEMBER!

WRITTEN by SATSVARUPA
ILLUSTRATED by JADURANY DEVI
LETTERED by JAYAGOVINDA

TO ASSURE HIS MAHAJAN DEVOTEE, KRISHNA APPEARS IN HIS 4-ARMED FORM AS NARAYAN, CONTROLLER OF THE COSMOS...

KRISHNA IS THE CHARIOT DRIVER OF ARJUNA, BHISMA'S ENEMY--AND STILL HE PAYS RESPECTS TO THIS GREAT WARRIOR!

CHARIOT DRIVER??
KRISHNA IS GOD! YET SEE HOW HUMBLY HE ACTS-- JUST TO PLEASE HIS DEVOTEE!

ALL GLORIES TO BHISMADEV!
PLEASE ACCEPT MY OBEISANCES!

IF GOD IS HUMBLE TO HIM, THEN BHISMA'S FAME IS EVEN MORE WONDERFUL THAN I CAN IMAGINE!

O MOST EXALTED LORD, BY YOUR PRESENCE ALONE I HAVE LOST ALL BOODILY PAIN! BUT--NOW I AM AT THE VERY BRINK OF DEATH!

"KINDLY STAY BY ME NOW-- AND LET ME SEE YOU AS YOU WERE AT KURUKSHETRA-- THE CHARIOT DRIVER OF ARJUNA!"

DRAW UP MY CHARIOT, O KRISHNA-- SO THAT I MAY SEE WHOM I AM FIGHTING-- AND WHAT THEIR STRENGTH IS!

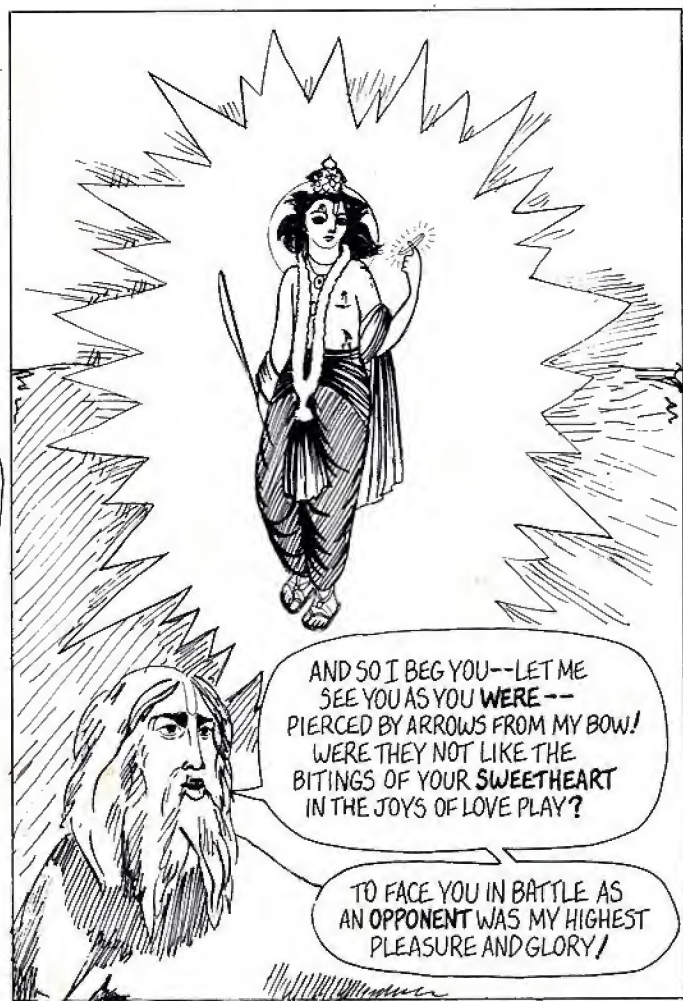
THERE IS BHISMA, YOUR GRANDFATHER!
THERE IS DRONA, YOUR FORMER MILITARY TEACHER!
AND THERE IS DURYODANA, THE KING!

THESE ARE THE CHIEF MEN YOU MUST SLAY!

"MEANWHILE, DURYODANA AND I LOOKED ON..."

LORD KRISHNA IS POINTING US OUT! DO YOU SEE HIM-- HIS BODY THE COLOR OF A FRESH BLUE RAIN CLOUD?

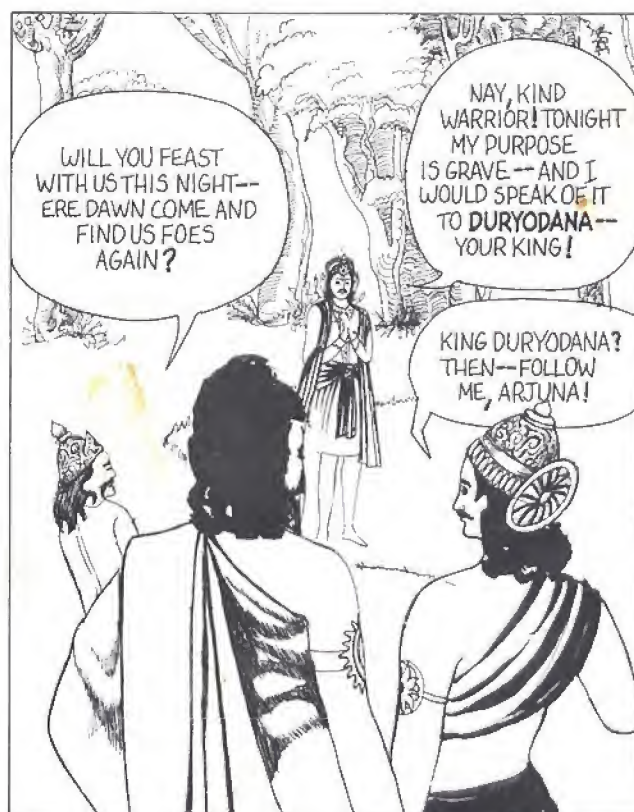
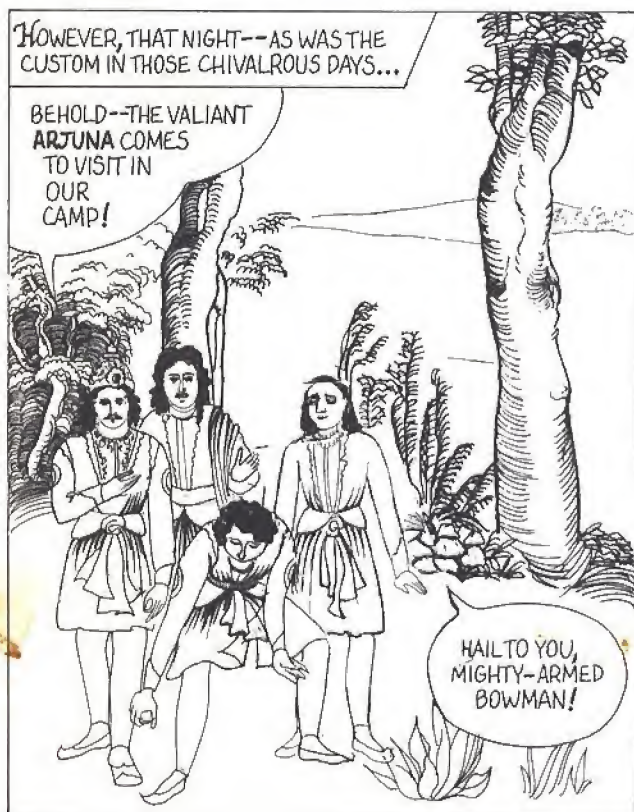
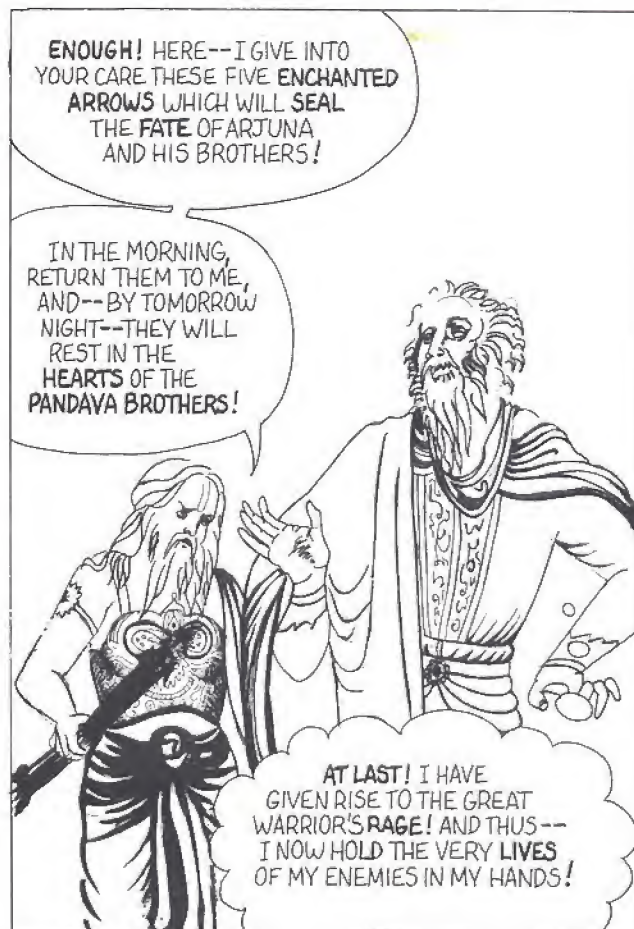
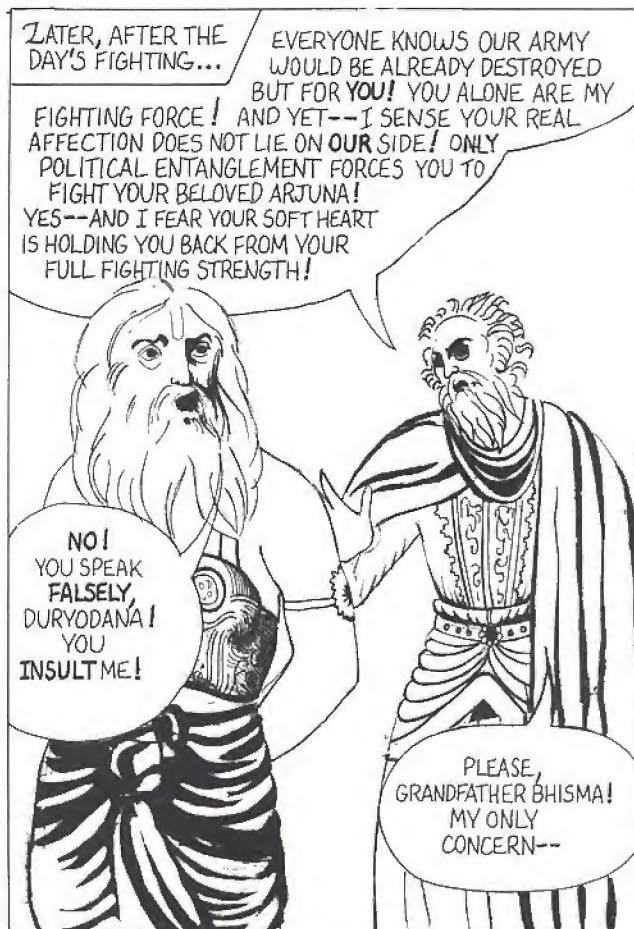
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, BHISMA? WE MUST MOVE OUR FORCES-- AT ONCE!

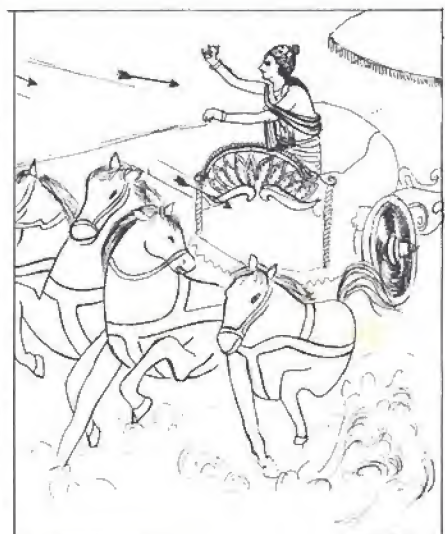
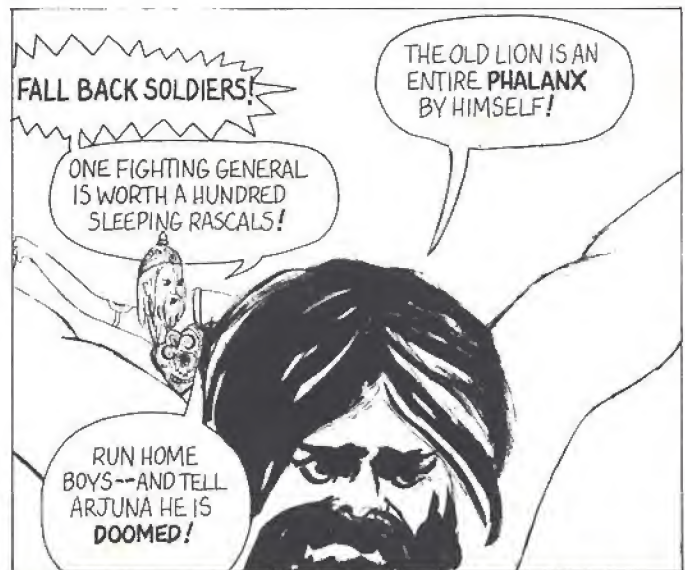
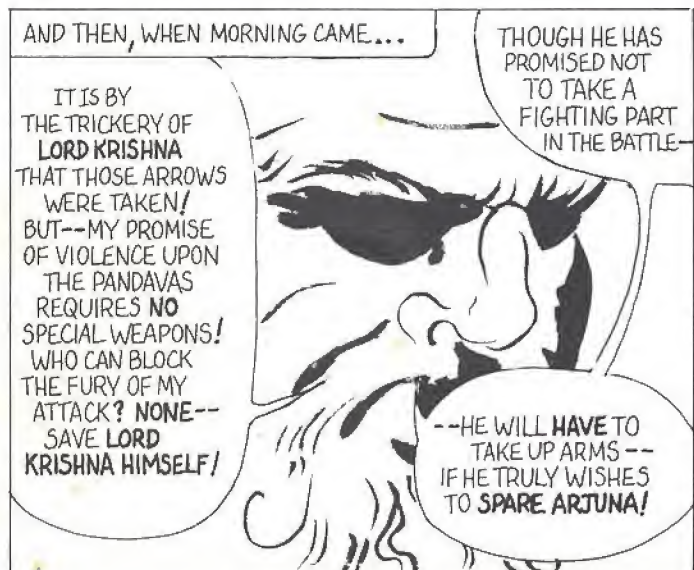


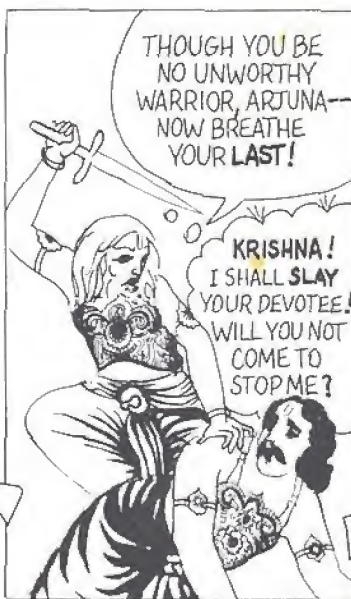
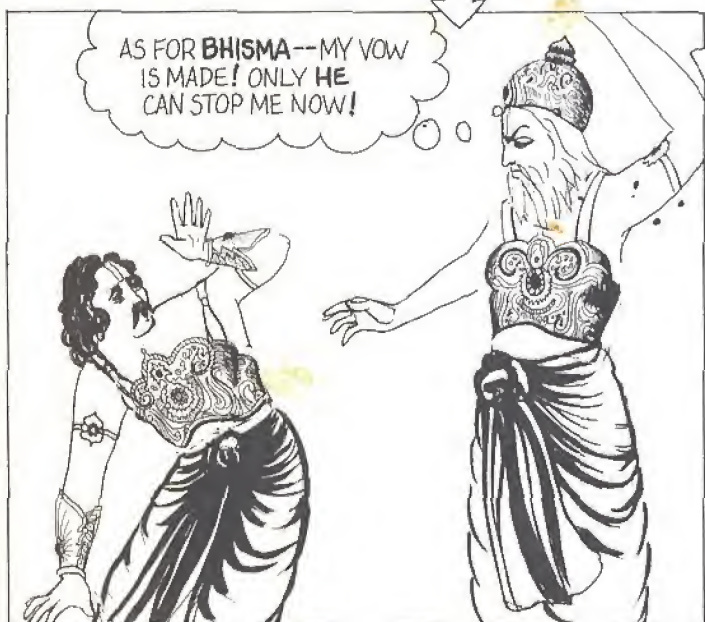
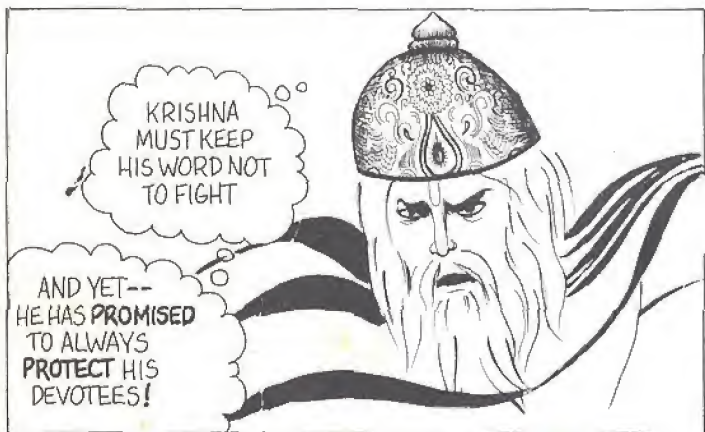
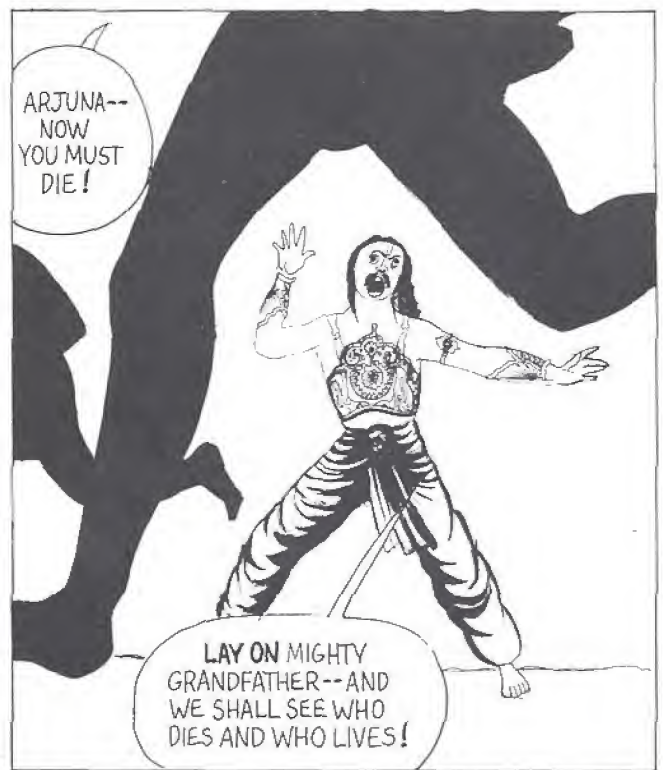
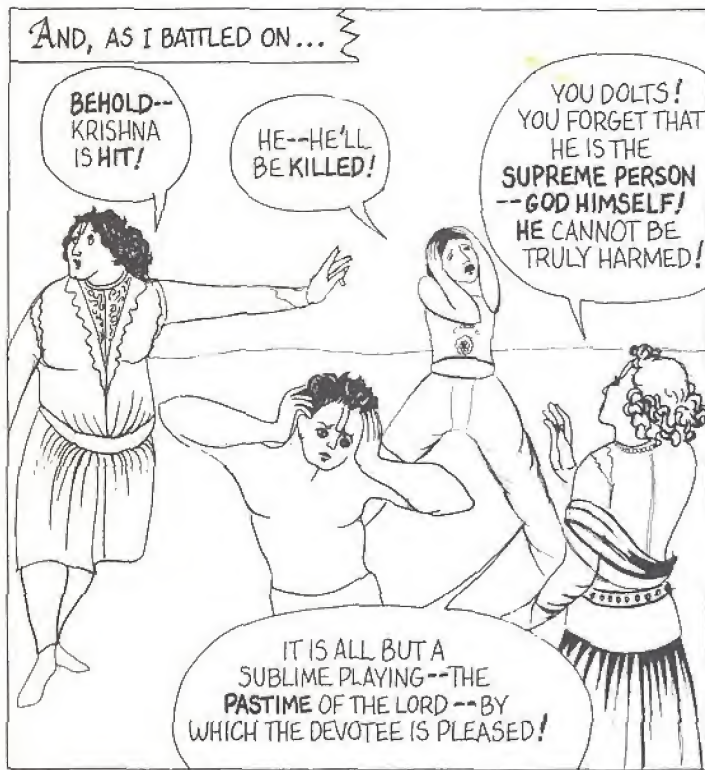
AND SO I BEG YOU-- LET ME SEE YOU AS YOU WERE-- PIERCED BY ARROWS FROM MY BOW! WERE THEY NOT LIKE THE BITINGS OF YOUR SWEETHEART IN THE JOYS OF LOVE PLAY?

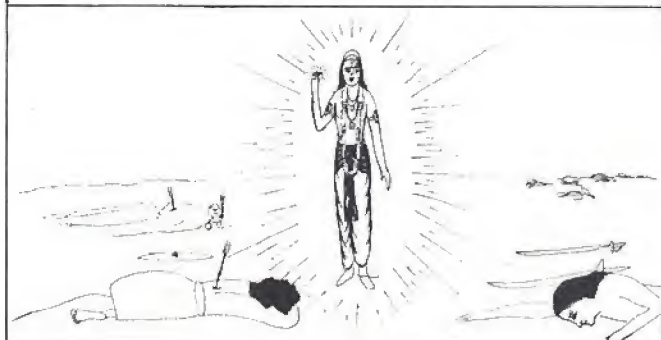
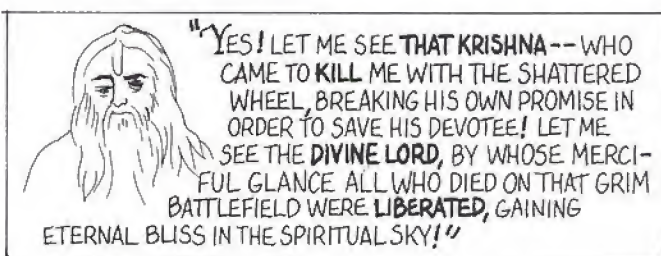
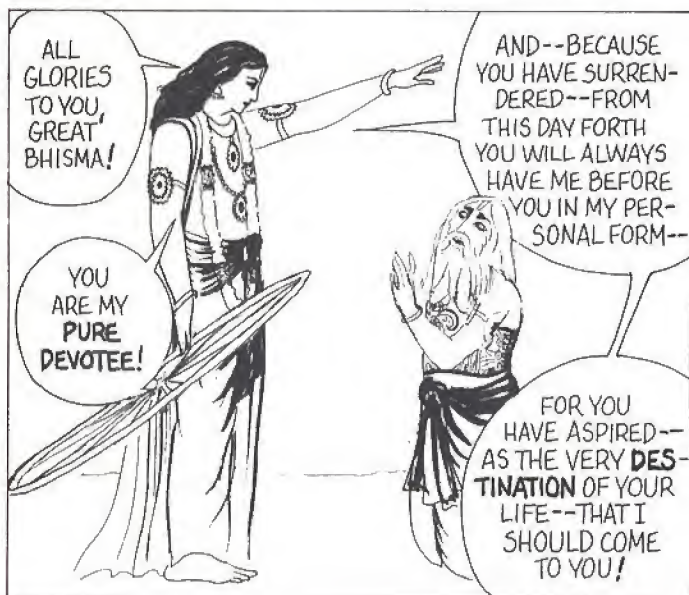
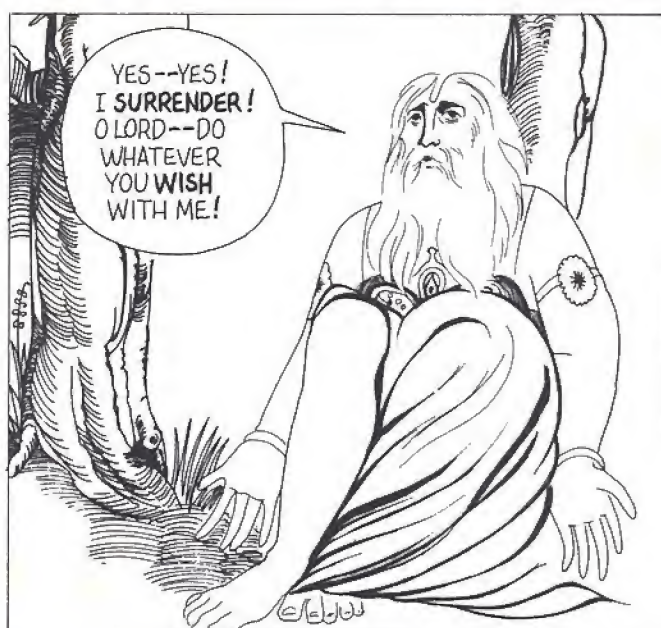
TO FACE YOU IN BATTLE AS AN OPPONENT WAS MY HIGHEST PLEASURE AND GLORY!











"HE IS THE SELF-SAME LORD WHO--
 BY THE SOUND OF HIS FLUTE --
 ATTRACTED THE DAMSELS OF BRAJA, THE
GOPIS, TO THE **RASA** DANCE IN THE
 MOONLIGHT! AT THIS LAST STAGE OF MY
 LIFE, I PRAY TO HAVE THE MERCY OF THOSE
 GOPIS WHO WERE AS **ONE** WITH THE LORD--
 FOR LOVER AND BELOVED BECOME LIKE
 EQUALS!"



MERGING INTO THOUGHTS
 OF THE LORD, AND FULL WITH
 HIS GLORIOUS PRESENCE,
 BHISMA BREATHES
 HIS LAST...

SURELY--BHISMA
 WILL NOT RETURN TO
 THIS MORTAL WORLD! HE
 HAS WORSHIPPED **LORD
 KRISHNA** AS THE **ORIGIN** OF
 ALL LIFE, AND SO HE WILL
 ATTAIN TO THE TRANS-
 CENDENTAL ABODE,
VAIKUNTHA!

AS YOGIS, WE CAN UNDER-
 STAND THAT BHISMA HAS
 ATTAINED A SPIRITUAL FORM--

AND HE WILL
 TAKE PART WITH
 THE LORD ETER-
 NALLY IN BLISS-
 FUL AND
 ALL-KNOWING
 ACTIVITY!

HOW AWESOME
 IS THE STATURE
 OF MAHAJAN
 BHISMA!



Courtesy:

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